

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-17, and 19-23 remain in connection with the present application, with claim 1 being the sole independent claim.

DRAWINGS

The Examiner has objected to Figures 1 and 4, alleging that they require appropriate labeling. In a Drawing Correction Approval Request submitted concurrently herewith, Applicants have labeled the boxes of Figures 1 and 4 as requested by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

FURTHER DRAWING OBJECTION

The Examiner has additionally objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a), alleging that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. This objection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Initially, with regard to claim 16, the mechanical switches of claim 16 have been removed and thus the objection has been rendered moot. With regard to the whole bridge of claim 15, Applicants respectfully submit that such a feature does not need to be described in the drawings for full and adequate understanding of the invention. Claim 15 has been clarified, in a manner somewhat similar to that of existing claim 2, thus stating that the at least three primary converter sections each include, among other features, one full bridge. Drawings are necessary in United States Patent & Trademark Office if an adequate understanding of the invention requires such a drawing. Method claims, for example, as well as many chemical compound

claims and indeed entire applications do not typically include drawing figures as these drawing figures are not required for an adequate understanding of the invention. Applicants have already included Figures 1-8 of the present application, and from these figures, an adequate understanding of each of the various claims of the present invention can be obtained in conjunction with the disclosure. An Applicant need not include each and every element of each and every dependent claim in a drawing figure, as this would in many applications, create an excessive amount of drawing figures.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's assertion and request withdrawal of the Examiner's objection for at least the aforementioned reasons.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner has objected to claims 1-23 because of minor informalities. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-17 and 19-23 have been amended, taking the Examiner's objections into consideration, in an effort to place the claims in better form for U.S. practice. It should be noted that each of the various amendments made to the claims to correct minor informalities are non-narrowing amendments which have not been made for any reason relating to patentability, or for any other statutory consideration. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Examiner's objection is respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 5-13, 16, 19, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The claims have been reviewed and amended, in a non-narrowing fashion, in an

effort to place them in strict compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, taking into consideration the various suggestions made by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Examiner's objection is respectfully requested.

PRIOR ART OBJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 7 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112(b) as being anticipated by Reinhold et al. (EPO 820893). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, the sole remaining independent claim, has been amended to clarify that the common transformer includes a plurality of primary windings and a single secondary winding, wherein output lines of each of at least three primary converter sections are each connected to a respective one of the plurality of primary windings of the common transformer. Claim 1 has been amended further to clarify that the electronic circuit also includes a single secondary converter connected to the single secondary winding of the common transformer. **At least such a feature of a common transformer including a single secondary winding, and a single secondary converter connected to the single secondary winding, as claimed in claim 1,** are not taught or suggested by Reinhold et al. as will be explained as follows.

One object of a preferred embodiment of the present application is to provide the circuit with high-input voltage which has low weight and which can be produced at low cost. In order to resolve such an object, the present application as set forth in claim 1 does not utilize a plurality of individual transformers. **Only one common transformer** is used, which includes a plurality of primary windings respectfully connected to a plurality of primary converter sections, and which includes **a single secondary winding** connected to a single secondary converter. As

such, by using only one common transformer, weighting costs are reduced [see paragraph 11 of the present application for example].

Reinhold et al. arguably teaches the use of a plurality of primary converter sections as shown in Figure 6 for example. However, as shown in Figure 3, each primary converter section, 14 and 15 for example, is connected to a separate transformer 16 and 17, respectfully. Further, an equal number of secondary converters 18 and 19 are present, each of which connects to a respective secondary winding of a respective one of the two transformers 16 and 17. Thus, in Reinhold et al., there is clearly an equal number of transformers and primary converter sections, and not a common transformer connected to at least three primary converter sections of a primary converter as claimed in claim 1 of the present application. Further, in Reinhold there are clearly a plurality of secondary converters, and not a single secondary converter connected to a single secondary winding of a common transformer as claimed in claim 1 of the present application. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 of the present application is patentable over Reinhold et al. Thus, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection is respectfully requested.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 3-6, 8-10, 12, 14-16, 18, 19, 22 and 23 under U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Reinhold et al. in view of Laeuffer. Further, the Examiner has rejected claims 17 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Reinhold et al. in view of Nomura. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully suggest that even assuming *arguendo* that either one or both of Laeuffer and Nomura could be combined with Reinhold, which Applicants do not admit, each of these references would still fail to make up for at least the aforementioned deficiencies of claim 1 of the present application. Accordingly, for at least the reasons previously set forth with regard to independent claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the various dependent claims of the present application are allowable over any alleged combination of Reinhold et al. and Laeuffer or Nomura, even assuming *arguendo* that such a combination could be made. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

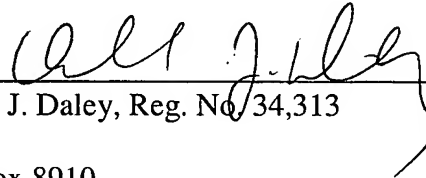
Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of all outstanding objections and rejections and allowance of claims 1, 2, 4-17 and 19-23 in connection with the present application are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Donald J. Daley at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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